

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 05272 292152Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

DLOS-04 EB-07 CG-00 DOTE-00 /067 W

----- 118193

P R 292030Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7489

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 5272

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BL, CI

SUBJ: BOLIVIAN OUTLET TO THE SEA

1. ON JULY 27 THE THREE LOCAL MORNING NEWSPAPERS IN LA PAZ REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT BANZER IN A NEWS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM MONTEVIDEO PREDICTED THAT BOLIVIA WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE PACIFIC BEFORE 1980. THIS STATEMENT APPEARS TO BE A MODIFICATION OF PREVIOUS CLAIMS THAT BOLIVIA WOULD EXPECT TANGIBLE RESULTS FROM ITS DIALOGUE WITH CHILE WITHIN A CONSIDERABLY SHORTER PERIOD OF TIME.

2. THE MORNING NEWSPAPER PRESENCIA QUOTED PRESIDENT BANZER AS SAYING THAT SINCE BOLIVIA HAD BEEN WITHOUT A SEACOAST FOR NINETY-FIVE YEARS WITHOUT MAKING MUCH HEADWAY TOWARD A SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM, THE GOB NOW WANTED TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR CALM NEGOTIATIONS CONSIDERING ALL FACTORS OF THE SITUATION. THE PRESIDENT ALSO NOTED THAT CHILE HAS BEEN WELL DISPOSED TOWARD BOLIVIAN OBJECTIVES AND THE OTHER NATIONS OF LATIN AMERICA HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH BOLIVIA.

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3. COMMENT: THE PRESIDENT'S PRONOUNCEMENT IS A RADICAL

DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS STATEMENTS WHICH PLACED AN END
OF-THE-YEAR TIME LIMIT ON ACHIEVING SUBSTANTIAL RESULTS
IF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHILE WERE TO BE MAINTAINED
AND THE DIALOGUE CONTINUED. NO MILITARY OR CIVILIAN REACTION
TO THE NEW TIME FRAME HAS BEEN NOTED AS YET, BUT THE EMBASSY WILL
BE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY SINCE THE ISSUE IS
ONE WHICH DISSIDENT MILITARY FACTIONS COULD ESPOUSE
IN AN ATTEMPT TO RALLY SUPPORT.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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